



BORIS THE SPIDER

A Journal of Duplicious Doings,
Raw Power, and Naked Greed

*"Oh, what a tangled web we weave
When first we practice to deceive"*

--Sir Walter Scott--



VOLUME VIII, #1

(#221)

16 Jan 04

New Volume!

It's a new year, the traditional time to begin new volumes, and given that I'll be transitioning to a new i-Mac, new printer, and possibly a different publishing program, it seems appropriate. What I've used since Volume 6, #2, MACPUBLISHER, is slow, a pain to import graphics, and prone to crash (usually just before printing); on the other hand, it was under \$20 and I've churned out 72 issues with it. Not a bad ROI.

We'll have a page open next month with the completion of KREMLIN. DOWN WITH THE KING could end next month, and CIRCUS MAXIMUS should end in March. Candidate games are SETTLERS OF CATAN (full quota of 4 -- but since I have an unopened expansion set, we can take up to 2 more), KREMLIN (4 signed up, can take 2 more), and of course vengeance matches of C MAX or DwtK.

IMMEDIATE GAME OPENINGS:

CIRCUS MAXIMUS: The red chariot is available

DUNE: The BGs are available. Their prediction will stand.

Gunboat MACH: Have three signed up.

BORIS'S BULLETIN BOARD

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "Every endeavor is a game, is it not?" -- Ibils Glnjao

We've come across yet another method of boardgaming by e-mail. The Automated Card Tracking System (ACTS) allows gamers to play card-based games over the internet (Reference 1). Available are modules for AoR, TITAN, UP FRONT, REPUBLIC OF ROME and the WE THE PEOPLE card driven movement type games (HANNIBAL, FOR THE PEOPLE, PATHS OF GLORY, etc) amongst others. It appears to be text only, but does include a die roller. Other systems out there include Cyberboard (Reference 2), Vassal (Reference 3), and the Above the Fields system (Reference 4) by ex-Boriser Hank Burkhalter. Cyberboard and Above the Fields are PC only. Vassal is Mac & PC compatible and works live over the internet or by e-mail. ACTS is internet based.

BOOS & KUDOS

The Madame Bolduc Press Excellence Award (and free issue) this month goes to Jack Shacklett for his Ipswich Writer article in "Boris XVII".

This month's Ms Nar Super-Sudsy Bomb goes to Dave Anderson for declining to accept the Black Titan position.

REFERENCES:

1. <http://acts.warhorsesim.com>
2. <http://cyberboard.brainiac.com>
3. <http://www.vassalengine.org>
4. <http://abovethefields.com>

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION HERE (maybe):

Deadline for most games is 1800 CDT 6 FEB 04



AUSTRIA DOUBLE STABS!!

Fall 1908

XVI
2002C

MIRKWOOD: Emperor Ron has plunged the dagger deeply into the other members of the anti-German troika. Will this doom the anti-German effort or place units where they will be most effective? All Kaiser Dave needs is the three Russian-held centers and LON to triumph.

VOTING: Both the concession to Germany and A/G draw fail. They are repropoed.

TROOP MOVEMENTS:

Germany retreats A StP-Nwy. Russia retreats A LVN to MOS.

AUSTRIA (R Fisher): A Smy-Ank, F Ion-Nap, A Gre H, F Aeg-Ion, (A Boh-Mun), A Bud-Rum, A Tri-Ven, A Ty S A Tri-Ven;

GERMANY (Anderson): A Lvn-Mos, A Bur S A Mar, (F Iri-Mid), A Yor S F Nth-Edi, A Bre H, F Nth-Edi, (A Gas S A Mar), A Mar H, (A Nwy-StPld), A War S A Lvn-Mos, F Bal S A Swe, A Swe H, A Sil S A Mun, A Mun H, F Hol-Bel;

ITALY (Wilson): (A Spa-Gas), F Eng-Lon, (F Wes-Mid), (A Pie-Mar), (F Ven Hlr-???), F Lyo S A Pie-Mar.

RUSSIA (Fowble): A Fin-Nwy, (F Bot-Swe), A StP S A Fin-Nwy, (A Mos S A StP Ir-???), F Edi H(r-???);

Italian F VEN must retreat otb or to ADR, or APU. Russian A MOS must retreat otb or to SEV or UKR. Russian F EDI must retreat otb or to CLY or NRG. Concessions to Germany and A/G are proposed.

Orders in brackets fail; CD = Civil Disorder, d = disbanded, NMR = no move received, NRR = no retreat received, nsu = no such unit, NVR = no vote received, otb = off the board, otm = on the move, r-??? = must retreat somewhere, u = unordered. See map and full transcript of game on the Website.

SUPPLY CENTERS:

AUS: Bud Tri Vie Ser Gre Smy Con Bul +Ank +Nap +Rum +Ven

(12) Build 4*

GER: Ber Kie Mun Bel Den Hol -Lon Par Bre Edi Lpl Mar -StP Swe War +Mos

(14) Even

ITA: -Nap Rom -Ven Tun Spa Por +Lon

(5) Tear 1 **

RUS: -Mos Nwy Sev -Rum -Ank +StP

(3) Tear 2 ***

* But has only 3 open home centers so will play at least 1 short.

** If Italian A VEN r-otb, then EVEN.

*** If both Russian A MOS and F EDI, retreat otb, then EVEN. If one retreats otb, then TEAR 1. Otherwise, TEAR 2.

Due next time: Your votes on the proposals (NMR or NVR = Yes). Orders for retreats, builds/tears, and for Spring 1909 and Press.

EMBASSY BEAT

Italy to Germany: No retort? No attempt to convince me I've acted rashly and irrationally? I'm disappointed. And I show my disappointment by inflicting further damage, I hope.

Italy to Austria: Push, push, push.

Italy to Russia: Hang in there baby, we're doing what we can.

--continued on p 15



To Feed the Troops Fall 1901

XVII
2003F

MINAS MORGUL: France is the biggest winner and Russia a clear loser in this year's quest for grub. 'Twill be interesting to see if England and Germany ally against the monster in their midst or if an Anglo-French alliance is already a done-deal. Will an Austro-Turkish alliance form to exploit the weakness of Russia? And whither Italy?

AUS: (Rink Copeland) A Ser S F Alb-Gre, A Vie-Tri, F Alb-Gre;
ENG: (Jack Shacklett) A Edi-Nwy, F Nwg C A Edi-Nwy, F Nth S FRE A Pic-Bel;
FRA: (Kevin Wilson) A Mar-Spa, A Pic-Bel, F Mid-Por;
GER: (Rudy Zodda) A Kle S A Ruh-Hol, A Ruh-Hol, (F Den-Swe);
ITA: (Ron Fisher) A Tus-Ven, A Ven-Apu, F Ion-Tun;
RUS: (Dave Anderson) (A Ukr-Rum), (A War-Ukr), (F Bla S A Ukr-Rum), (F Bot-Swe);
TUR: (Cary Nichols) (A Bul-Rum), (A Ank-Con), (F Con-Bla).

Orders in brackets fail. See map and full transcript of game on the Website.

SUPPLY CENTERS:

AUS: Bud Tri Vie +Gre +Ser	(5) Build 2
ENG: Edi Lon Lpl +Nwy	(4) Build 1
FRA: Bre Mar Par +Bel +Por +Spa	(6) Build 3
GER: Ber Kle Mun +Den +Hol	(5) Build 2
ITA: Nap Rom Ven +Tun	(4) Build 1
RUS: Mos Sev StP War	(4) Even
TUR: Ank Con Smy +Bul	(4) Build 1

Orders for Winter 1901/02 are due next time.

EMBASSY BEAT

Russia to France-Good to hear from you again.

London Fall, 1901: The British Ministry of Tourism is saddened to hear that the port of Trieste is unavailable for visits by our citizens. Many were looking forward to the quaint coffee-bars and other bars in this lovely region. We appreciate your suggestion to visit Venice and Constantinople and are in the process of negotiating for a visit. Our Scandinavian cruises are going well although German and Russian competition may make some ports unavailable.

Also, please note that the large gun turrets are only for defense as we have had reports of pirates in the North Sea, Norwegian Sea, Barents Sea, Baltic Sea, Ionian Sea,

T-R: You propose an alliance and then enter neutral territory?

France to All: Only my witticisms in the press last time. Now, I know mine are never the best so unless you want to be continuously bored by my inane ramblings, I suggest we all appease Ms. Nar and write something worth reading.

Austria to Russia - Sorry for the misunderstanding in Galicia, but the Czar's invitation to the New Year ball specifically requested all armies be left at home.

BORIS WORLD PRESS REVIEW

Ipswich Writer: For Sale, two tickets on the British cruise ship, *HMS Hood*. Will sell for the tickets for an upper deck suite at the paltry sum of 500 pounds. Seems the missus has developed an allergic reaction to lead, especially in large quantities.



MACHIAVELLI

BRIBERY

Spring 1515

2003 D
pw10

ERRATA: Austria controls COR & VER. France controls COMO. Turkey controls MAR.

Ragocitti: Money talks, as Pope Dave has discovered. But with sufficient fund in hand, will he turn the other cheek or retaliate in kind? Meanwhile Austria thwacked the Turks in three of the four corners of the board.

TROOP MOVEMENTS:

Austria (27d) maintains all but A IST & F MOD (-18d), builds F BARI, F MES, F SAR (-9d)*. France (27d) maintains all (-18d), builds A SALZ & AVI (-6d). Milan is NMR. The Papacy (33d) maintains all (-15d). Turkey (27d) maintains all but A RAG (-18d), builds F TUN & F DUR & A HUN (-9d). Venice (37d) maintains all (-24d) and builds A TRE & A PAD (-6d).

AUSTRIA (Wilson, 0d): A Trent-Carin, F Pal-Chi, A Mil S A Trent-Carin, A Tyr S A Trent-Carin, F TS S F Sar-WM, F GoN S F TS, F Bart S F Mes-Otr; F Mes-Otr; F Sar-WM;

FRANCE (Scott, 0d): A Pav S A Como, A Gen = G, F Nap H, A Como H, A Pro-Tur, A Swi S A Pro-Tur, A Avi-Mar, A Salz-Sav;

MILAN (Cole, 0d): No units.

PAPACY (Anderson, 18d): A Pisa = G, (A Bol-Fer), A Cap S FRE F Nap, (F Aqu-AncKno), (A Urb S F Aqu-AncInso);

TURKEY (McConnell, 2d): A Cro H, (A Car-Carin), F Dal S F LA, A Aus S A Car-Carin, (F LA S F Otr-Bari)r-???, (F Otr-Bari)r-???, A Hun S A Aus, F Dur-IS, (F Tun-WM);

VENICE (Nichols, 7d): Bribes F Aqu (-18d). A Cro S A Man, A Man S A Pad-Fer, F Anc-LA, F UA S F Aqu-LA, A Tre-Fri, A Pad-Fer, F Aqu S F Anc-LA;

Autonomous: Luc, Man, Mon, Pio, Sav, Sic.

Orders in brackets fail. b = besieged, d = destroyed, imp = impossible, no = not owned, nso = not so ordered, nau = no such unit, otb = off the board, otm = on the move, r-??? = must retreat otb or elsewhere.

Turkish F LA must retreat otb or to ALB, DUR, HER, RAG. Turkish F LA must retreat otb or to ALB, DUR, HER, RAG.

Orders for Summer 1515 are due next time. And Press. Ms Nar craves Press.

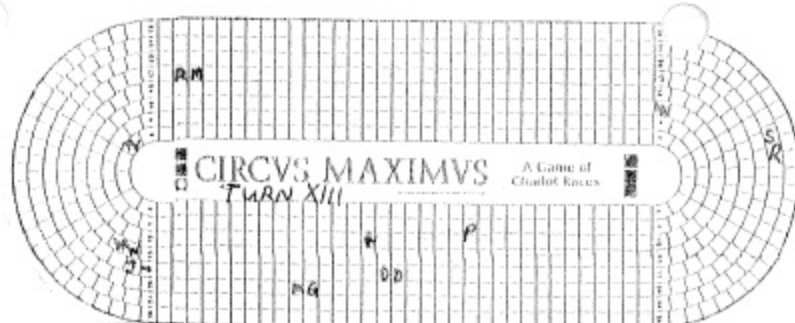
Game transcript and, if I get lucky with graphics, perhaps a game map are on the website. Have a new printer/scanner/copier so I'll come up with something sooner or later.

PRESS

Venice-Papacy: Shouldn't we be working together?

France to Venice: looks like it's the big 2 & you (Aust / Turk, & Ven) versus the Pope & France, huh? How long do you expect to last in that triangle?

TURK-FRANCE: CUTE BUT NO (XMAS) COOKIE.



DAVIDUS POOPS OUT!

TURN XIII

Odds	COLOR	DRIVER (CDM/DH)	CART	Whip	Wheels	TEAM	END	Speed	D/E
4-1	Red	Rufus Magnus (+2/7)	H	Y	0/0	5324	14	16	1/2
6-1	Blue	Sprinticus Rex (+2/8)	L	Y	0/0	7545	11	23	1/1
5-1	Green	Josephus (+2/9)	L	Y	0/0	7446	05	22	1/1
8-1	Orange	Maximus Gladius (0/6)	M	Y	3/0	5436	36	19	1/1
21-1	Yellow	Davidus Detroit (+2/6)	L	Y	2/0	2444	09	16	1/1
120-1	Aqua	Whiplash Willie (+1/6)	M	Y	0/0	4435	06	17	1/2
	White		W	-	-/-	3536	17	17	1/1
	Purple		W	-	-/-	6325	39	16	1/1

Whiplash (Zicake): 15, no whip. In 1, ahead 1, corner strain at 3 over (3 = n/e -3 END), ahead 12. brake or evade if attacked

Purple Team: 16. Ahead 16.

Sprinticus (Copeland): 23, no whip, ahead 23. IF attacked, swerve to avoid. Collect last dolphin.

Rufus (O'Hara): NMR! 16, no whip. Ahead 16.

White Team: Ahead 17.

Davidus (Dave A): 16, whip (6, -6 END), wheel check (6, OK). Ahead 1, corner strain at 5 over (14-2 = LH [7 = 1 inj to #11 -5 END = END GONE! [-1 to drum, can't whip or brake, can't cornerstrain without flipping, -1 to team speed every turn], wheel check 12 = OK), ahead 1, lash Whiplash Willie; Willie fails to evade (8+1 vs 4+1); Col = 6+1 - (3+1) = 3; roll = 5 = Brake, -2 END!, ahead 17.

Josephus (R Fisher): 12, no whip. Ahead 8, out 1, ahead 3.

Maximus (York): 19, no whip. Wheel check (11 = OK). Ahead 19.

Odds	COLOR	DRIVER (CDM/DH)	CART	Whip	Wheels	TEAM	END	Speed	D/E
4-1	Red	Rufus Magnus (+2/7)	H	Y	0/0	5324	14	16	1/2
5-1	Green	Josephus (+2/9)	L	Y	0/0	7446	05	22	1/1
6-1	Blue	Sprinticus Rex (+2/8)	L	Y	0/0	7545	11	23	0/1
8-1	Orange	Maximus Gladius (0/6)	M	Y	3/0	5436	36	19	1/1
21-1	Yellow	Davidus Detroit (+1/6)	L	Y	2/0	1444	00	14*	1/1
120-1	Aqua	Whiplash Willie (+1/6)	M	Y	0/0	4435	01	17	1/1
	White		W	-	-/-	3536	17	17	1/1
	Purple		W	-	-/-	6325	39	16	1/1

*Speed drops by 1 every turn.

See Website for map and transcript.



BRITANNIA

"Devon"
Turn XIII



The Cast:

Blue: Kevin Wilson Green: Rick Copeland Purple: Rudy Zodda Red: Peter Boyum

Board

Welsh (2): 3A @ Powys; 2A @ Clywd, Dyfed, Gwent, Gynnedd; 1A @ Cornwall, Devon.
Brigantes (1): 3A @ Strathclyde; 2A @ Dunedin, Galloway, Lothian, Pennines; 1A @ Cumbria, Mar.
Picts (2.5): 3A @ Dalraida; 2A @ Alban, Skye; 1A @ Hebrides.
Caledonians (1.5): 2A @ Caithness, Orkneys.
Irish (2.5): 2A @ Avalon, Cheshire, Hwicce.
Norsemen (0.5): 2A @ Moray, 2R @ Atlantic, Irish.
Dubliners: 5A, 2R Irish.
Danes: 3A, Bros @ Lindsey; 3A @ York; 2A @ North, S Mercia; 1A @ Essex, Kent, March, Suffolk.
Jutes (2.5): 1A @ Sussex.
Saxons (0): 2A, Alfred @ Wessex; 1A @ Downlands, Edgar @ ???.
Angles (2.5): 2A @ Bernicia, N Mercia, Norfolk.

Picts (2.5): Grow 2 PP. Add 1A @ Skye. 3A Skye-Caithness (4,3,1:5,2; 5,2:6,4 -2 Pict, 1 Pict r-Skye), 1A Dalraida-Skye, 1A Alban-Skye.

Caledonians (1.5): Grow 1 pp. Hold.

Irish (2.5): Grow 3 pp. Add 1A @ Cheshire. 2A Cheshire-March, 1A Hwicce-March (5,3,2:2 -1 Dane), 1A Avalon-Hwicce.

Norsemen (0.5): Grow 0.5 pp. 2R Irish-Atlantic-Dyfed, 2R Atlantic Ocean-Dyfed (3,1,1,1:6,4; 5,5,1:6,4 -2 Norseman, -2 Welsh). Surviving Norsemen remain, score 0.5 tourist VP.

Dubliners: ...

Score: Green 74.5, Red 65.5, Blue 48, Purple 40.

Board

Welsh (2): 3A @ Powys; 2A @ Clywd, Gwent, Gynnedd; 1A @ Cornwall, Devon.
Brigantes (1): 3A @ Strathclyde; 2A @ Dunedin, Galloway, Lothian, Pennines; 1A @ Cumbria, Mar.
Picts (2.5): 3A @ Skye; 2A @ Dalraida; 1A @ Alban, Hebrides.
Caledonians (2.5): 2A @ Caithness, Orkneys.
Irish (2.5): 3A @ March; 2A @ Hwicce; 1A @ Avalon, Cheshire.
Norsemen (1): 2A @ Dyfed, Moray.
Dubliners: 5A, 2R Irish.
Danes: 3A, Bros @ Lindsey; 3A @ York; 2A @ North, S Mercia; 1A @ Essex, Kent, Suffolk.
Jutes (2.5): 1A @ Sussex.
Saxons (0): 2A, Alfred @ Wessex; 1A @ Downlands, Edgar @ ???.
Angles (2.5): 2A @ Bernicia, N Mercia, Norfolk.

Legend: A = infantry army, C = cavalry army, F = fort, L = legion or leader, pp = population point, R = raider, r-??? = retreats to ???, w-??? = withdraws to ???, (*) = in melee, _#_ = attack by/against cav/legion

Current map and game transcript can be found on the website.



BRITANNIA

"Frisian"

Turns II-III



The Cast: (Nations in Italics are extinct)

R (Hanna): Romans, R-Bs, Norsemen, Norwegians

W (Anderson): Welsh, Jutes, Normans

C (Buttita): Brigantes, Caledonians, Danes

D (Boyum): Picts, Irish, Angles

E (Frueh): Belgae, Scots, Saxons, Dubliners

Board:

Romans (A): 2L.F @ Lindsey, Lothian; 1L.F @ Dunedin, March, N Mercia; F @ Avalon, Bernicia, Cheshire, Downlands, Essex, Hwicce, Kent, Norfolk, S Mercia, Pennines, Suffolk, Sussex, Wessex.

Welsh (B, 2.5): 2A @ Gwent, Powys; 1A @ Chwyd, Cornwall, Devon, Dyfed, Gwynedd.

Brigantes (C, 0.5): 3A @ Galloway; 2A @ Strathclyde, York; 1A @ Cumbria;

Picts (D, 0.5): 2A @ Calthness; 1A @ Alban, Dalriada, Mar, Skye;

Caledonians (C, 1): 2A @ Orkneys; 1A @ Hebrides.

SCORE: R(23), C(13), E(8), W(0), D(0)

Welsh (2.5): Grow 4.5 pp. Add 1A @ Devon & Cornwall. 2A Gwent-Hwicce (5.5:3 -F), 1A Powys-Gwent, 2A Devon-Hwicce-Downlands (5.2:1; 6.4:2 -F), 1A Cornwall-Devon. Score 2 BVP.

Welsh-to World-Let us see if we can win in the rocks and the plains this time.

Brigantes (0.5): Grow 3.5 pp. Add A @ York. A York-Bernicia (2.6 -1 Brig), 2A York-Pennines (3.1:5; 6.5 -2 Brig, F), 2A Galloway-Dunedin, 1 A Strathclyde-Dunedin (3.5.1:3.3; 5.3.1:2.6 -1 Brig, 2 Brig r-Strathclyde). Brigantes submit, score 1 VP.

Picts (0.5): Grow 3 PP. Add 1A @ Mar. 1A Mar-Moray.

Caledonians (1): Grow 1 pp. Hold.

Turn III

Board:

Romans (A): 2L.F @ Lindsey, Lothian; 1L.F @ Dunedin, March, N Mercia; F @ Avalon, Bernicia, Cheshire, Essex, Kent, March, Norfolk, S Mercia, Suffolk, Sussex, Wessex.

Welsh (B, 2.5): 2A @ Downlands, Hwicce; 1A @ Chwyd, Cornwall, Devon, Dyfed, Gwent, Gwynedd, Powys.

Brigantes (C, 0.5): 3A @ Strathclyde; 1A @ Cumbria, Galloway;

Picts (D, 0.5): 2A @ Calthness; 1A @ Alban, Dalriada, Mar, Moray, Skye;

Caledonians (C, 2): 2A @ Orkneys; 1A @ Hebrides.

Irish (D, 0): 1R @ Irish

SCORE: R(23), C(13), E(8), W(2), D(0)

Romans: 2L Lothian-Dunedin-Alban (4.2:1*; 4.1:5; 4.2:2; 4.3:1; 5.2:3; 6.2:2 -1Pict +1F), 1L Lindsey-York-Pennines, 1L Lindsey-Suffolk-Essex, 1L N Mercia-Hwicce, 1L Merch-Hwicce (6.1:4.1 -1 Welsh, 1 Welsh r-Downlands). Score 2 VP.

* Pict may retreat to Mar, Moray, Skye, Dalriada.

Legend: A = infantry army, C = cavalry army, F = fort, L = legion or leader, pp = population point, R = raider, r-??? = retreats to ???, w-??? = withdraws to ???, (*) = in melee, g = attack by/against cav/legion



DUNE

Turn 3 Bidding-Movement



The Board:

ATREIDES (Nichola): 5T @ Arrakeen, 3T Imperial Basin, 2T @ Cielago North, 8R, 1S, 0C
BENE GESSERIT (O'Hara): 1T @ Carthag, Cielago North, Tuck's Stetch, Imperial Basin, 10S, 15R, 1C

BENE TLEILAXU (Butitta): 3C, 1S, Tr @ Habbanya Ridge Stetch

FREMEN (Barrett): 5T, 2* @ Stetch Tabr, 3T @ Red Chasm, 6S, 5R, 1*R, 4C

GUILD (Anderson): 6T @ Tuck's Stetch, 14R, 17S, 2C

HARKONNEN (Wilson): 10T Carthag, 10R, 5S, 6C

LANSRAAD (R Fisher): 18R, 10S, 4C

Spice: 8S @ Minor Erg, 6S @ Hagga Basin.

Storm: Sector 18

Tanks: Lady J, Atreides 5T, Freman 4T, Landraad 4T, BG 1T

TURN 3 (cont)

3.3 Bidding: There are five cards available. F & L have full hands. BG gets 2S CHOAM charity. BT bids 1S on 1st card; gets _____; BT is full. H bids 1S on 2nd card; gets _____ & _____; H is full. G bids 3S, A bids 1S on 3rd card, gets _____. G bids 3S, A bids 1S on 4th card, gets _____. G is full. A bids 1S on 5th card, gets _____.

3.4a Revival: A revives 2T, F revives 3T, L revives 3T, BG revives 1T.

3.4b Shipping: L orders G to hold. F "ships" 9T from reserve to Hagga Basin(13). G can't ship 3T to Tuck's Stetch. L ships 4T to Minor Ergs(8); 8S to G, 1 BG accompanies.

3.4c Movement: A moves 3T from Imperial Basin-Broken Land(12). H moves 5T Carthag-Hagga Basin(13). F moves 2* Stetch Tabr-Broken Land(12).

3.5 Combat: F (9T) vs H (5T) at Hagga Basin and A (3T) vs F (2*) Broken Land. Recall that the BT can try to assassinate a surviving leader of one combat, so provide orders for that too.

Due next time are your orders for Combat 3 through Turn 4 Spice Blow. Ma Nar craves Press. Transcript and map are posted on the website.

Press:

Harkonnen to Freman: For this time, we claim the spice available near our base in Carthag. Your trips across Arrakis, collecting spice without contest can be carried elsewhere. At least this once.

Freman to Harkonnen: I have no concerns over your well being or comfort. While you remain safely ensconced in Carthag the Atreides have been to work collecting spice. We Freman have ridden worms to battle and joined with the Guild in a quest to rid this planet of corruption. The slave pits of Giedi Prime must await our enslavement by a more dominant power than the Harkonnen.

Your cards are:



TITAN

TWO ELIMINATED!



Turn 7

ERRATA: Only one Behemoth was mustered last time. Spiked Die is at 141; Pen at 104.

SLAIN THIS TURN: Centaur, Gargoyle, Lion, Ogre, Titan.

COMBAT: Black's Eye of Sauron defeats Gold's Crown, killing the Titan, and scoring 81 VP. Black then resigns. To simplify things GM changes history by mutating a single die roll from 4 to 1, thus forcing another round of combat and mutual annihilation.

SLAIN BY REVISION: Titan, Warlock, Gargoyle(x2), Cyclops(x2), Angel, Ogre(x2), Troll.

THE BOARD:

Brown (Fruehl), 6-4, 0 VP, dr=6: Spider 140 hold; Hourglass 138-2, spawn Bell?; Antlers 12-108, spawn Pawprint; Tankard 41-5.
Blue (York), 6-4, 0 VP, dr=1: Batman 23 holds; Trident 29-30, spawns Candle 30, Anchor 26-127.
Red (Bargender), 7-4, 112 VP, dr=6: Bleeding Heart 38 holds; Maltese Cross 42-2.
Green (Rezzarday), 6-4, 54 VP, dr=1: Dagger 120-119; Fleur-de-Lis 33-134, Frog 134-33.

MUSTERED: Centaur, Cyclops(x3), Gorgon, Ranger

COMBAT: Red's Maltese Cross vs Brown's Hourglass at Woods 2.

FORCE POOL: Archangels (6), Angels (14), Behemoths (17), Centaurs (7-1), Colossi (10), Cyclops (13-2), Dragons (18), Gargoyles (7), Giants (18), Gorgons (24-1), Griffons (18), Guardians (6), Hydra (10), Lions (24), Minotaurs (21), Ogres (10), Rangers (28-1), Serpents (10), Trolls (21), Unicorns (12), Warbears (21), Warlocks (5), Wyverns (18).

DEAD POOL: Centaurs(6), Cyclops(9), Gargoyles(7), Lion(2), Ogres(5), Titan(2), Troll.

Your Turn 8 die roll is: _____. Current masterboard and game transcript are on the website.

Your Legions are:



FRUEH IS FREE

SR 1 (cont)

FiF

PLAYER STATUS:

Zodda: \$380, SVRN, D&H
Hanna: \$480 (\$185 on C&A)
Bolduc: \$480 (\$225 on B&O)
Copeland: \$355, M&H
Zieske: \$440, C&SL (\$180 on C&A)

SR 1

C&A: Zieske bids \$180, Hanna bids \$185, Copeland passes, Zieske bids \$190, Hanna bids \$195.

Bolduc gets B&O for \$225.

Zodda buys President's certificate of NYNH at a par value of \$90 (-\$180).

Hanna & Bolduc pass.

PLAYER STATUS:

Zodda: \$200, SVNRR, D&H, 2 NYNH&H*
Hanna: \$285, CA, 1 PR
Bolduc: \$255, B&Ope, 2 B&O*
Copeland: \$355, M&H <Priority>
Zieske: \$440, C&SL

Epochs I-IV

play during turn

RELIGION(1)

Play faceup beside board.

Place army of the current

Empire on

the space

provided.

One Victory

Point is

scored by the

controlling faction at the end

of every turn. May be cap-

tured, destroyed, transferred.

Army

Epochs VI-VII

play during turn

SCIENCE(2)

Play faceup beside board.

Place army of the current

Empire on

the space

provided.

Two Victory

Points are

scored by the

controlling faction at the end

of every turn. May be cap-

tured, destroyed, transferred.

Army

Down with the King

Royal Assassination Fails! Assassin Escapes! Turns 15-16



Errata: With the onset of War with Epain, the Ambassador is recalled and the office no longer exists.

Turn 15 (continued):

The East:

D&D Anderson: Lord Jeffrey (#23MC & 61), 3 IP, 29/14 PP, 12 cards, #51, #24(MC.H), #55(H)
A. Bargender: Duke James (#22, MC), 20 IP, 44/26 PP, 12 cards, #52(H) #12(H) #32, Catherine
Copeland: Marquise Margaret (#56 Cronos), 3 IP, 74/19 PP, 12 cards, Phillip, #15, #46, #54, #31,
#53, #25, #41, #44, Jane, #36, Queen Anne, #65, Alan.
Fowble: Lord Robert (#16/62), 11 IP, 51/12 PP, 12 cards, #13(H), #45, #21, #11, #26, Almerly,
#35, #43, #34, #33, #56, #36, John.
York: Duchess Mary (#64), 12 IP, 33/23 PP, 12 cards, #63(H), #14, #42(H).

The Cabinet:

Monarch: Queen Anne, Mt (40 Support)	Consort: <Vacant>
Navy: Lord Arthur (#36), Mt	High Minister: Duke Henry (#43), Ro
State: Earl Duncan (#34), Ro	Army: Earl Francis (#33), Ro
Trade: Duke Marley (#44), Mt	Justice: Knight Dale (#25), Mt
Epain: <At War>	Besyzan: Sir Michael (#15), Je
Sandarkan: Sir Guy (#12), Ja	Cronos: Lord Perceval (#41), Mt
City States: Sir Richard (#14), My	Treasury: Knight Simon (#31), Mt

Turn 15:

5. Player Turns (continued):

James: Drew a card, 1 IP, Intrigue. Roll on Craft table (5+2 = Ordinary. Roll again. 7+2 = Skilled +2 IP, +2 IP). Use Intrigue chit and "Assassination" card to have the Sheriff attempt to assassinate Queen Anne. Margaret plays "Palace Guards" (-2), Jeffrey plays "Informer" to aid the attempt (+2), and there is a -1 for the target being the Monarch: 6-1 = Unsuccessful.

Mary: Drew a card, 1 IP, Gain 1 IP. Roll on Craft Table (3+2 = No business, lose all IP, -1 dm). Toss Intrigue.

Robert: Drew a card, 1 IP, Extra Activity. Roll on the Fashion Table (6+2 = Smart +2 PP). Make Sir Donald a Henchman. Recruit Alfred (S5).

Jeffrey: Drew a card, 1 IP, Any Activity. Roll on Literary Pursuits table (12+2 = Poet Laureate +3 PP). Recruit Uncle Ed (S8).

The Cabinet:

Monarch: Queen Anne, Mt (40 Support)	Consort: <Vacant>
Navy: Lord Arthur (#36), Mt	High Minister: Duke Henry (#43), Ro
State: Earl Duncan (#34), Ro	Army: Earl Francis (#33), Ro
Trade: Duke Marley (#44), Mt	Justice: Knight Dale (#25), Mt
Epain: <At War>	Besyzan: Sir Michael (#15), Je
Sandarkan: Sir Guy (#12), Ja	Cronos: Lord Perceval (#41), Mt
City States: Sir Richard (#14), My	Treasury: Knight Simon (#31), Mt

The East:

D&D Anderson: Lord Jeffrey (#23MC & 61), 3 IP, 31/8 PP, 12 cards, #51, #24(MC.H), #55(H), Ed
A. Bargender: Duke James (#22, MC), 20 IP, 44/26 PP, 12 cards, #52(H) #12(H) #32, Catherine
Copeland: Marquise Margaret (#56 Cronos), 3 IP, 74/19 PP, 12 cards, Phillip, #15, #46, #54, #31,
#53, #25, #41, #44, Jane, #36, Queen Anne, #65, Alan.

Fowle: Lord Robert (#16/62), 11 IP, 53/9 PP, 12 cards, #13(H), #45, #21(H), #11, #26, Almere, #35, #43, #34, #33, #66, #36, John, Alfred.

York: Duchess Mary (#64), 0 IP, 33/23 PP, 12 cards, #63(H), #14, #42(H).

Turn 16

1. **Player Order:** Mary, Jeffrey, Robert, James, Margaret

2. **Office:** N/A

3. **Political Problems:** Knight Dale (Ability = 2) vs Treason & Conspiracy Trials (Margaret, Archbishop, Sheriff, Judges). Earl Francis (Ability = 2) vs War with Epain (Margaret & Army, General).

4. **Crown Event:** 12 = Plague; 15 (Sir Michael, in Besyzan so ineligible); 13 (Sir Malcolm) & 26 (Knight William) die.

The Cast:

D&D Anderson: Lord Jeffrey (#23MC & 61), 3 IP, 31/8 PP, 12 cards, #51, #24(MC,H), #55(H), Ed A. Bargender: Duke James (#22, MC), 20 IP, 44/26 PP, 10 cards, #52(H) #12(H) #32, Catherine Copeland: Marquise Margaret (#56 Cronos), 3 IP, 74/19 PP, 11 cards, Phillip, #15, #46, #54, #31, #53, #25, #41, #44, Jane, #36, Queen Anne, #65, Alan.

Fowle: Lord Robert (#16/62), 11 IP, 53/9 PP, 11 cards, #45, #21(H), #11, Almere, #35, #43, #34, #33, #66, #36, John, Alfred.

York: Duchess Mary (#64), 0 IP, 33/23 PP, 12 cards, #63(H), #14, #42(H).

You drew _____, _____, and _____. Due next time are modifications to the political problems and your player turn. If Anne remains Monarch at the end of Turn 16, Margaret wins.

Table Modifiers

Table	James	Jeffrey	Marge	Mary	Robert
Business Speculation	0	0	-1	0	0
Court Ball	0	0	+1	0	+2
Craft	+2	0	0	+1	-1
Fashion	+2	+1	-1	0	+2
Literary Pursuits	+2	+2	+1	+2	0
Patronage	-1	+1	+2	0	0
Socializing	0	0	0	0	-2

Counsels

Table	James	Jeffrey	Marge	Mary	Robert
Court Ball	--	--	--	1.4	1.3
Foreign War	2	--	--	--	2.3
Scandal	--	--	--	--	4
Treason & Conspiracy Trials	3	--	--	--	1.3

Epochs I-III

play during turn

LAW(1)

Play faceup beside board.
Place army of the current
Empire on
the space
provided.
One Victory
Point is
scored by the
controlling faction at the end
of every turn. May be cap-
tured, destroyed, transferred.

Army

Epochs I-III

play during turn

PHILOSOPHY(1)

Play faceup beside board.
Place army of the current
Empire on
the space
provided.
One Victory
Point is
scored by the
controlling faction at the end
of every turn. May be cap-
tured, destroyed, transferred.

Army



KREMLIN Some Speak!



CAST (in Table Order):

Cary Nichols: Re-Education Deployment Society (REDS), 2 cards, 2 waves

Ron Fisher: Red Bivalve Factory (RBF), 3 cards

Mike Scott: The California Connection (TCC), 1 card, 2 waves

Warren "Goz" Gozale: Sneaky, Treacherous, Annoying Bastards (STAB), 4 cards

Dave Anderson: Decaying Licentious Antequarians (DLA), 1 card

Anderson: Same story-Different game. Tried for the early win. Lost gloriously. Congrats to Cary on a well played game.

Nichols: Win #1. I'd hate to admit how many pbvm games it took, so it's nice to win one. I was watching Mike, since he already had two waves. Ron was coming on strong and might have taken control at any time. An enjoyable game, everybody!

Scott: Quite a job, Cary... Five turns, you got 3 waves, and there were 5 too. How unusual! I did what I could... next time, no quarter!



Source of the Nile

Turn 20



The Cast:

Dan Farrow (dropped)

Ron Fisher (dropped?)

Don Chinnery

Jason Bargender

Andrew York

D&D Anderson

Previously Published: DD12 (lake, +79 acres), DD11 (lake, +75 acres), CC11 (lake, +88 acres), AA13 (veldt, river from 1 and 4 to 2), Z14 (veldt, river from 5 to 4, cataract, waterfall is 350 feet), Z13 (veldt, river from 1 to 2) and tribe L11 (the Mphahlele) in Z13.

Positions still available for fearless explorers. Contact Alan Bargender if interested.

Emelious Englatine Brown (Dave and Debbie Anderson): publishes G24 (jungle, river from 3 to 6), H24 (swamp), G22 (mountain, river begins and extends to 4), H21 (desert, river from 1 to 3, oasis), I22 (veldt, river from 6 to 3), J19 (swamp), J18 (veldt), K18 (veldt), M10 (the Kimbundu) in G22, L15 (the Bagazal) in J19, M36 (the Ruanda) in J18, M37 (the Maleonde) in I22.

Epochs V-VII

play during turn

ARCHITECTURE(1)

Play faccup beside board.

Place army of the current

Empire on

the space

provided.

One Victory

Point is

scored by the

controlling faction at the end

of every turn. May be cap-

tured, destroyed, transferred.

Army



AIR BARON

"Boston"
Set-Up



The Cast

Rick Copeland: Hindenburg Lines (Orange), 87
 Cary Nichols: TransCon Air (Green), 87
 Rudy Zodda: Trans Tucan (Red), 87
 Paul Barrett: Barrett Airline Retro Transportation (Purple), 87

NOTE: With only four players, we are playing the 4-player East version, so SFO, LAX and all their spokes are out of play.

PRE-BUY:

TCA buys ELP (-82). BART buys MEM (-84). Both HL and TTA went for SLC, so we go to second choices. HL buys BWI (-84) and TT buys TPA (-86).

TURN 1:

Player Order: TCA (BWL, MEM), HL (HOU, JFIO, BART (DCA, ATL), TT (TPA, PHX).

Due next time are your orders for Turn 1.

The Cast

Rick Copeland: Hindenburg Lines (Orange), 83, BWI
 Cary Nichols: TransCon Air (Green), 85, ELP
 Rudy Zodda: Trans Tucan (Red), 81, IPA
 Paul Barrett: Barrett Airline Retro Transportation (Purple), 83, MEM

PRESS

B.A.R.T. to all: Hi. Hippies of the world unite, travel B.A.R.T

--"BORIS XVII" (continued from p 2)

BORIS WORLD PRESS REVIEW

ATHENS OBSERVER: The evil darkness that sent Germany into a war frenzy, dragging Europe into a deadly conflagration has moved southeast engulfing Austria in its madness. In a frenzy of back-stabbing and dot-grabbing the Austrian Emperor has turned on his former allies and changed the balance of power in the current conflict.

"I was right all along-what Russia was doing in Rumania- I had to defend those people; and all of Turkey will be better off under our control than what Russia had planned for them (though they probably deserve it anyway). As for Italy- well they just over-stepped their bounds, needed to be brought back to earth- a third rate power mucking about in the English Channel, and that silly fleet popping in and out of Venice-that simply had to go. Its been coveting Trieste for a year now and I won't tolerate it any longer"

An envoy has been dispatched to Germany to see to the passification and control of all Europe under benevolent Austrian-German rule to into a peaceful new era.



HISTORY OF THE WORLD

"PRIAM"

Epoch I



The Cast

Rudy Zodia (Black)
Paul Zieske (Purple)

Wayne Morrison (Orange)
Kevin Wilson (Green)

Dave Anderson (Red)

OPTIONS: Preservation of Culture, Fortresses, Persistence of Culture & US Navy pass

BOARD:

W: 2A,C,F @ LT1

EPOCH I:

EGYPT (G): 1A,C,GM @ Nil, 1F @ Red, 1A @ Nub, UN1. Play "Ship Building". 2F @ EMS, 1A @ Lev.
VP = 0 + C(1x2) + Mid E(P=2) + NAID=2 + S(2) = 8.

MYAQA (O): 1A,C, "Philosophy" @ Cre, 1A @ Mor, 1A @ Pin, 1F @ EMS (2,1:3 -1OF). VP = 0 + Philosophy(1) + C(1x2) = 3.

INDUS VALLEY (R): 1A,F, "Commerce" @ Ufn, 1A @ PSD. VP = 0 + Commerce(1) + C(1x2) + Mid E(P=2) + India(P=1) = 6.

BABYLONIA (P): 1A,C @ MT1, ...

SCORE: G (8), R(6), O(3)

BOARD:

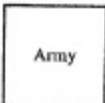
G1: Lev, Nil(C,GM), Nub, UN1
O1: Cre(C,Philosophy), Mor, Pin
R1: PSD, Lin(C,F,Commerce)
W1: 2A,C,F @ LT1
Fleets: EMS(2G), Red(G)

Epochs II-III, VI-VII

play during turn

DEMOCRACY(1)

Play faceup beside board.
Place army of the current
Empire on
the space
provided.
One Victory
Point is
scored by the
controlling faction at the end
of every turn. May be cap-
tured, destroyed, transferred.

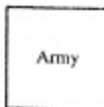


Epochs I-III, VI-VII

play during turn

COMMERCE(1)

Play faceup beside board.
Place army of the current
Empire on
the space
provided.
One Victory
Point is
scored by the
controlling faction at the end
of every turn. May be cap-
tured, destroyed, transferred.



**The Cast (In Tiebreak Order)**

GENOA (Copeland): \$22, 1C, 1K, 0M

PARIS (Frueh): \$23, 1C, 2K, 0M

BARCELONA (Buttla): \$27, 1C, 2K, 0M

VENICE (Hanna): \$21, 1C, 2K, 0M

1.4: PURCHASE PHASE

B (11t) buys Galley-2 (\$10), Stabilization (\$3).

V (16t) buys Galley-2 (\$10) and Stabilization (\$3).

P (17t) buys Stabilization (\$3), "Caravan" II: \$20.

G (18t) buys Galley-2 (\$10), Stabilization (\$1).

1.5: EXPANSION PHASE

B (11t) 2t=c @ Mon, 2t=c @ Basq, 3t=c @ Tol, 2t=c @ Val, 2t=c @ Gra.

V (16t) plays 4t=c @ Vie, 4t=c @ Flo, 3t=c @ Dub, 2t=c @ Bel, 3t for a card.

P (17t) plays 3t=c @ Basl, 3t=c @ Dj, 3t=c @ Nur, 4t=c @ Bru, 4t=c @ Col.

G (18t) play 5t=c @ Mar, 4t=c @ Lyo, 3t=c @ Mil, 4t=c @ Rom, 2t=c @ Nap.

B earns the expansion bonus card.

1.6: PROFIT PHASE: B & P (6C) earn \$39. G & V earn \$35. There is a surplus of Metal (4, 3+5), but no majority holder, and a shortage of Silk (2, 4+6) so B gets a card.

2.1: DRAW CARD PHASE: All draw a card.

The Cast (In Turn 1 Order)

BARCELONA (Buttla): \$53, 6C, 5K, 0M, Gal-2

VENICE (Hanna): \$43, 5C, 4K, 0M, Gal-2

PARIS (Frueh): \$39, 6C, 3K, 0M

GENOA (Copeland): \$46, 5C, 2K, 0M, Gal-2

Advances

I

THE BOARD:

B: C @ Basq BAR Gra Mon Tol Val.

G: C @ GEN Lyo Mar Mil Rom; 2T @ Nap

P: C @ Basl Bru Col Dj Nur PAR.

V: C @ Bel Dub Flo VEN Vie.

Due next time are orders for Token Bid through Card Play Phases.

Your cards are:

LEGEND: c = white circle, C = colored circle, K = cards, M = misery, ML = misery level, t = white token, T = colored token

See website for transcript and map.

ON DECK



1830: Frueh, Zodda, Zieske

1835: Hanna, Zieske

1856: Hanna, Frueh, Zieske

1870: Zieske, Hanna, Frueh

AIR BARON: R Fisher, Copeland, Zodda, Barrett, Zodda

BLACKBEARD: Zodda

BRITANNIA: Zieske

COLONIAL DIPLOMACY: Copeland, Nichols, Anderson, Boyum; need 3 more.

DIPLOMACY: Curtis, Summarell

GUNSLINGER: Scott, Fowble, R Fisher; need 4 more

JUNTA: Copeland, Dave A, Hanna

KINGMAKER: R Fisher, Shacklett

KREMLIN: Zodda, Scott, Anderson, Barrett

MACHIAVELLI (Gunboat): Have 3.

MAGIC REALM: Butitta, Deb A

MAHARAJA: Hanna, Zodda

MERCHANT OF VENUS: R Fisher, Deb A, Khaoz

PUERTO RICO: R Fisher

RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR: O'Hara? Scott

SETTLERS of CATAN: K Wilson, Copeland, Zieske, R Fisher

SILVERTON: Zieske, Deb A

WIZARD'S QUEST: A&J Bargender, Farrow, R Fisher, Deb A

OTHER POSSIBILITIES: 1829 (N OR S), AFTER THE HOLOCAUST (*GM Fowble), GODFIRE, KAMAKURA, MONSTERS RAVAGE AMERICA, PLANET MINERS, SAMARAI.

* Offered by guest GM, when space is available.

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DEADLINE FOR MOST GAMES IS 1800 CENTRAL TIME 6 Feb 04

The Bottom Line

This is **BORIS THE SPIDER**, a 'zine dedicated to the play of multiplayer games. **BORIS** is usually published following the first Friday of the month by Paul & Meg Bolduc, 203 Devon Ct, Ft Walton Beach, FL 32547-3110 and currently has a subscription price of \$10.50 for 12 issues in hardcopy (\$13.25 in Canada, and \$16 overseas) or a token \$1 by e-mail (waived if overseas). A hardcopy sub will also include an e-mail sub. Make checks payable to "Paul Bolduc". **BORIS** can be reached at (850) 863-9081, or prbolduc@aol.com. If phoning, expect to be greeted by an answering machine. If we're here, not engaged in an epic computer battle or enthralled in baseball, hockey, or college football, and recognize your voice, you may get to talk to a real human, so don't hang up upon hearing our recorded message (it changes every power outage). Visit the **BORIS** Website at:

<http://hometown.soi.com/prbolduc/boris/borishome.htm>



STELLAR CONQUEST

William T. Riker: Due soon are Turn 39 combat and adjustments to movement orders for Turn 40. Please expedite your orders.

"Kurzon Dax". Orders for Production 8 and Turns 9-16 and are due soonest.

BORIS THE SPIDER

c/o 203 Devon Ct

FWB, FL 32547-3118

<http://hometown.aol.com/prbolduc/boris/borishome.htm>

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FIRST CLASS